

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 22 and 23, without prejudice to Applicants' right to prosecute the subject matter in a related, co-pending application.

The following claims have been amended, as shown in the attached Appendix.

1 9. (Once amended) A granular or powdered α -sulfofatty acid ester composition,
2 comprising:
3 a detergent portion comprising at least one detergent component that causes more
4 than a minor amount of additional di-salt formation; and
5 α -sulfofatty acid ester which is post-added to the detergent portion;
6 the detergent portion and α -sulfofatty acid ester each comprising a plurality of
7 separate particles; whereby additional di-salt formation is reduced.

1 17. (Once amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the α -sulfofatty acid ester is
2 free of components that cause more than a minor amount of additional di-salt formation.